State of Arizona House of Representatives Forty-fifth Legislature First Regular Session 2001

CHAPITER 126

HOUSE BILL 2181

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 28-930 AND 28-3228, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO SCHOOL BUSES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona: Section 1. Section 28-930, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

28-930. <u>School bus lighting equipment: standards and specifications</u>

- A. The director may adopt standards and specifications applicable to lighting equipment on and special warning devices to be carried by school buses consistent with and supplemental to this article. The standards and specifications may designate and permit the use of alternately flashing warning signal lights on school buses for the purpose of indicating when children are boarding or alighting from a school bus. The standards and specifications shall correlate with and, as far as possible, conform to the current specifications as approved by the society of automotive engineers.
- B. A person shall not operate an alternately flashing warning signal light on any school bus except when the school bus is within A MINIMUM OF one hundred feet of a stop or is stopped on a highway for the purpose of permitting school children to board or alight from it.
- C. A school bus may be equipped with alternately flashing red strobe lamps on the octagonal signal manually operated by the school bus operator pursuant to section 28-857, subsection C.
 - Sec. 2. Section 28-3228, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 28-3228. School bus drivers; requirements; rules; cancellation
- A. A person shall not operate a school bus transporting school children unless the person possesses the appropriate license class for the size of school bus being operated that is issued by the department of transportation, a bus endorsement that is issued by the department of transportation and a school bus certificate that is issued by the department of public safety.
- B. To be certified as a school bus driver a person shall do both of the following:
- 1. Meet and maintain the minimum standards prescribed by this section and rules adopted by the department of administration in consultation with the department of public safety and with the school bus advisory council established by section 28-3053.
- 2. Complete an initial instructional course on school bus driver safety and training including behind the wheel training.
- C. The department of administration in consultation with the department of public safety and with the school bus advisory council established by section 28-3053 shall adopt rules that establish minimum standards for the certification of school bus drivers. In cooperation with local school districts, the department of public safety shall provide for school bus driver safety and training courses. The standards established shall:

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- 1. Include requirements concerning moral character, knowledge of school bus operation, pupil and motor vehicle safety, physical impairments that might affect the applicant's ability to safely operate a school bus or that might endanger the health or safety of school bus passengers, knowledge of first aid, establishment of school bus safety and training courses, a refresher course to be completed on at least a biennial basis and other matters as the department of administration in consultation with the department of public safety and the school bus advisory council established by section 28-3053 prescribes for the protection of the public.
- 2. Require tests to detect the presence of alcohol or the use of a drug in violation of title 13, chapter 34 that may adversely affect the ability of the applicant to safely operate a school bus.
- 3. Authorize the performance of hearing tests with or without the use of a hearing aid as provided in 49 Code of Federal Regulations section 391.41.
- D. The department of public safety shall require applicants to furnish EACH APPLICANT FOR A SCHOOL BUS DRIVER CERTIFICATE SHALL SUBMIT A FULL SET OF fingerprints and shall obtain TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING A STATE AND FEDERAL criminal history record information RECORDS CHECK pursuant to section 41-1750 AND PUBLIC LAW 92-544. THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY MAY EXCHANGE THIS FINGERPRINT DATA WITH THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION. For the purposes of this subsection, the EACH applicant shall pay a fee to the department of public safety to reimburse the department of public safety for the cost of obtaining the applicant's criminal history record information RECORDS CHECK required by this subsection. The fee shall not exceed the actual cost of obtaining the applicant's criminal history record information RECORDS CHECK.
- E. The department of public safety shall issue a school bus driver certificate to an applicant who meets the requirements of this section. The certificate is valid if the applicant maintains the minimum standards established by this section.
- F. The department of public safety may cancel the certificate if the person's license to drive is suspended, canceled, revoked or disqualified. The department of public safety shall cancel the certificate if the person fails to maintain the minimum standards established pursuant to this section. A person whose application for a certificate is refused or whose certificate is canceled for failure to meet or maintain the minimum standards may request and receive a hearing from the department of public safety.
- G. The department of public safety shall enforce the rules adopted pursuant to this section.

APPROVED BY THE COVERNOR APRIL 17, 2001.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE APRIL 17, 2001.

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by the following vote:	58 Ayes,	by the follow		29	Ayes,
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HOUSE CONCURS IN SENATE AMENDMENTS AND FINAL PASSAGE

april 12,2001,	
by the following vote: 48 Ayes,	
Nays, 12 Not Voting	
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